Scientific, etc., Department.—A provision of Rs. 1,28,000 is made for 1104 as against the revised estimate of Rs. 1,12,800. The variations having all been explained in the memorandum, I do not wish to detain the House on the subject for any length of time.

Up-lift of the Depressed Classes.—I now come to the major head of account newly opened to exhibit all the various items of expenditure incurred for the special benefit of the depressed classes. As already pointed out by me, expenditure was being incurred annually by the several departments for the Up-lift of the Depressed classes. Now that a Protector of the Depressed Classes has been appointed, it appeared to the Government desirable to bring all the items of expenditure incurred for their benefit under a common head for statistical considerations. The schools transferred to this head represent those in backward localities which would not have been opened but for the special Up-lift of the Depressed Classes. I have given sufficient explanation of the various items in the memorandum, and I do not desire to repeat them here.

Miscellaneous.—Passing on, I come to the last head of expenditure, viz., 'Miscellaneous.' The only item on which I feel it necessary to give a word of explanation is the lump provision of Rs. two lakhs for re-organisation of departments after consideration of the Report of the Special Finance Committee. Before I enter into the subject, I am afraid, I shall be failing in my duty, if I do not express on behalf of the Government their sincere acknowledgment of the monumental report with the powerful notes of dissent and supplement submitted by the Special Finance Committee, whose sittings continued for about a period of two years holding 54 meetings in all. They had to deal with numberless pages of notes and reports not only of their sub-committees but also of the several Heads of Departments, and, after digesting all, had to prepare the report which, as now before the House, I have no hesitation in calling 'a landmark in the financial history of Cochin'. The special thanks of the Government are due in no small measure to that veteran scholar and statesman who presided over the deliberations of the Committee and who, in the words of the members of the Committee themselves, 'besides placing his long and varied experience at our disposal, bore the brunt of the work of the Committee.'

The report of the Committee is engaging the earnest attention of the Government and they hope to pass orders as early as possible. Meanwhile it is their sincere desire that the Members of the House may avail themselves of the opportunity during

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general discussion and in the course of discussing the several demands to place their views on the various recommendations of the Committee before the Government so that the Government may be in possession of their opinions also in the matter. All classes of Government servants, excluding perhaps some of the salary bill officers, have been anxiously waiting too long for some increase in pay being given to them, and it is my honest opinion, and I do hope that I voice the opinion of many of my friends inside and outside, when I say that it will be rather hard to postpone the matter any further on the ground of want of time to digest the report. After all, the main report with the dissenting notes contains about 100 pages and certainly it is not very difficult to master the well-considered conclusions of a Committee composed of some of the most experienced officials and popular representatives of the last Council, during the course of a few days. Government request for their early expression of opinion; hungry mouths plead for the same; the matter has already been delayed due to circumstances beyond control; it is but proper to make amends even now. In these circumstances I hope that the House will be pleased to give expression to their opinion in this very session, if possible, and to pass the lump allotment asked for.

Cranganur.

Now, Sir, a few words about the Cranganur budget also.

In 1102, according to the revised estimate we expected a net surplus of Rs. 12,120 only, the receipts and expenditure anticipated having been Rs. 1,88,250 and 1,76,130 respectively. The actual transactions, however, resulted in a surplus of Rs. 22,678 due to an increase in revenue over the revised estimate by Rs. 7,129 and a fall in expenditure by Rs. 3,429. The heads that mainly contributed to the increase in revenue were 'Land Revenue,' 'Stamps' and 'Abkari and Ganja' while the head mainly responsible for the decrease in expenditure was 'Public Works'.

For the current year we budgetted for a revenue of Rs. 1,88,240 and an expenditure of Rs. 1,84,990 thus resulting in a surplus of Rs. 3,250. According to the revised estimate, however, both the receipts and expenditure are expected to exceed the budget estimate by Rs. 4,990 and Rs. 7,970 respectively thus reducing the net surplus to Rs. 270.

The noteworthy increases in revenue are under 'Land Revenue' (Rs. 1,700), 'Stamps' (Rs. 1,830) 'Interest' (R. 2,490) and 'Public Works' (Rs. 2,070) due to renewals, etc., larger sale of court fee papers, more investments in banks, and the adjustment of a proportion of the State canal dues respectively. The

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